

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): J. NOGUCHI, et al  
Application No.: TBD  
Filed: December 23, 2003  
For: FABRICATION METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR  
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE  
Expected Group: 2825  
Expected Examiner: B. Keshavan

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 23, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in connection with a prior application of the above-identified application, that is, Application No. 09/965,220, filed September 28, 2001.

The documents on the enclosed List were cited in connection with a prior application, Application No. 09/965,220, being relied upon in the above-identified application under 35 USC §120. Accordingly, copies of the listed documents are not enclosed. See 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

To the extent that the documents on the enclosed List are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by English Abstracts/translations of non-English language documents, or discussion of the documents in Applicants' specification, for example, on page 4 thereof.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants have satisfied all applicable requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98 in connection with each of the documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.40678CX1), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO. 501.40678CX1	APPLICATION NO. TBD
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		<b>APPLICANT</b> J. NOGUCHI, et al.	
		<b>FILING DATE</b> December 23, 2003	<b>EXPECTED GROUP</b> 2825

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA	6,291,007	09/18/2001	White, et al.			
AB	6,482,755	11/19/2002	Ngo, et al.			
AC	6,534,397	03/18/2003	Okada, et al.			
AD	2002/0102834	08/01/2002	Yang			
AE	2002/0119651	08/29/2002	Noguchi, et al.			
AF	6,174,810	01/16/2001	Islam, et al.			
AG	6,165,894	12/26/2000	Pramanick, et al.			
AH	6,143,658	11/07/2000	Donnelly, Jr., et al.			
AI	6,159,857	12/12/2000	Liu, et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
AJ	11-330246	1999	Japan				X
AK	11-16912	1999	Japan			X	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AL	Process Focus; Semiconductor World 1998, 10; pages 62-63 and 70-72
<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard SI.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
AA	6,171,957	1/9/2001	Maekawa			
AB	6,136,680	10/24/2000	Lai, et al.			
AC	6,181,012	1/30/2001	Edelstein, et al.			
AD	6,242,349	6/5/2001	Nogami, et al.			
AE	6,521,532	2/18/2003	Cunningham			
AF	6,048,789	4/11/2000	Vines, et al.			
AG	6,348,402	2/19/2002	Kawanoue, et al.			
AH	6,355,571	3/12/2002	Huang, et al.			
AI	6,191,007	2/20/2001	Matsui, et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
AJ	10-261715	9/1998	Japan				X
AK	06-224194	08/1994	Japan			X	
AL	06-037038	02/1994	Japan			X	
AM	09-082798	03/1997	Japan			X	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AN	
Examiner	Date Considered

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